

From the Upper Chamber



Senate Information Office ♦ 201 Legislative Office Building ♦ Atlanta, Georgia ♦ 404.656.0028

Report for Friday, February 8, 2008

The fourteenth day of the 2008 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 429-439, Senate Resolutions 831, 842 and 845, and House Bills 296, 333, 921 and 967 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** welcomed former Sen. **Jimmy Paulk** to the Chamber. Sen. **Paulk** was visiting the Capitol today.

After the morning roll call, Sen. **Dan Moody** of the 56th led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Pastor **Steve Wood** of Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church in Alpharetta, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1st took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to discuss the tragic explosion at the Imperial Sugar Plant in Port Wentworth last night. He also stressed the importance of establishing a statewide trauma network in Georgia.

Sen. **Regina Thomas** of the 2nd rose on a Point of Personal Privilege to also discuss the tragic sugar factory explosion.

Sen. **Greg Goggans** of the 7th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to welcome the Coffee County New Century Leadership group, who were seated in the Senate gallery.

Sen. **George Hooks** of the 14th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to announce the passing of Mr. **Gene Stuckey**, husband of **Jill Stuckey** of the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority.

SR 826, 832-841, 843, 844, 846 and 847 were read and adopted.

Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** of the 47th moved to withdraw SB 425 from the State Institutions and Property Committee, and recommit the bill to the Insurance and Labor Committee. There was no objection.

The Senate Local Consent Calendar, consisting of HB 1047 and 1048, passed by a vote of 52 to 0.

Sen. **Ed Harbison** of the 15th took the rostrum to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Joseph Saulsbury** of Columbus.

The clerk read the Committee Substitute to SB 159, which changes the dates for filing applications for homestead exemptions.

Sen. **Cecil Staton** of the 18th took the well to explain the bill. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33rd.

The Committee Substitute to SB 159 was adopted unanimously.

SB 159 passed by substitute by a vote of 51 to 0.

Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th moved the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 11. Sen. **Williams** then took the well to discuss the upcoming schedule of the Senate. Following the announcements, the Senate stood adjourned.

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